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## *Cease-Fire Developments*

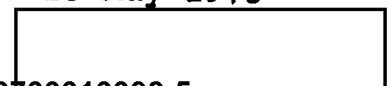
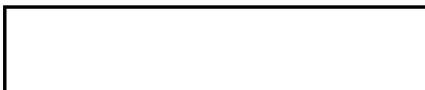
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CAMBODIANegotiations

A Reuters report from Phnom Penh on 28 May quotes "well-informed sources" as saying that the Lon Nol government has agreed for the first time to negotiate directly with Sihanouk's government-in-exile. Lon Nol allegedly agreed to the negotiations during a meeting with Ambassador Sullivan in Phnom Penh on 26 May. The sources also said that Le Duc Tho first insisted on obtaining Phnom Penh's agreement to the talks during his discussions with Dr. Kissinger in Paris last week. In return, North Vietnam admitted for the first time to Dr. Kissinger that it was maintaining troops on Cambodian territory.

The sources claimed that elements of the opposition Democratic Party had been approached to join the government. The Democrats are the only non-Communist party that is not now represented in the government.

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The Military Situation

A Mekong resupply convoy from South Vietnam consisting of ten vessels was subjected to intense Communist fire north and south of Neak Luong on 28 May, but managed to reach Phnom Penh without sustaining any major damage. Six of the vessels carried POL supplies. The capital now has sufficient fuel stocks to last until 7 June, when the next convoy is due to arrive.

Khmer Communist elements operating along the Mekong corridor also are continuing to carry out light shellings and occasional ground probes against government positions along the river's east bank in the vicinity of Neak Luong and near the isolated town of Prey Veng. Military action remained at a relatively low level in other sectors over the weekend. Government

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forces conducting clearing operations west of Phnom Penh near Route 26 reported only minor contacts. Other Cambodian units attempting to clear a section of Route 5 south of Kompong Chhnang City made some slight advances in the wake of heavy US air strikes.

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